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Manual:Extension/BlueSpiceWebDAV

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What is BlueSpiceWebDAV?

BlueSpiceWebDAV provides an endpoint for accessing files on the wiki using differenct client applications or mounting the wiki content as shared drive.

BlueSpiceWebDAV package

BlueSpiceWebDAV is a package that consist of three separate extension, all of which together provide the full funtionality of BlueSpiceWebDAV.

BlueSpiceWebDAV

A base extension, holding all underlying infrastructure for functioning of WebDAV. This extension does not provide and user interface.

BlueSpiceWebDAVClientIntegration

This extension provides an user user interface for the WebDAV on wiki. It integrates into BlueSpiceContextMenu to add an options to open eligible for opening using a client application.

BlueSpiceWebDAVMinorSave

This exension provides a mid-layer physical storage between client application and the wiki. File will be read from the wiki once it is opened and saved back to the wiki when its closed, while all intermediate saves will be saved in temporary location, in order to not produce unnecessary file versions on wiki.

Usage

Opening files using client application

Every link to a eligible file uploaded to the wiki can be opened using WebDAV. Files that are eligible are (depending on particular wiki configuaration): MS Office files (.docx, .xlsx...) and PDF files. Opening context menu on these files, will offer an option to open the file using the client application. Clicking on this option on eg. a .docx file will open the file in Microsoft Word application. All changes to the file will be automatically saved back to the wiki upon closing the file.

Opening file with a client application
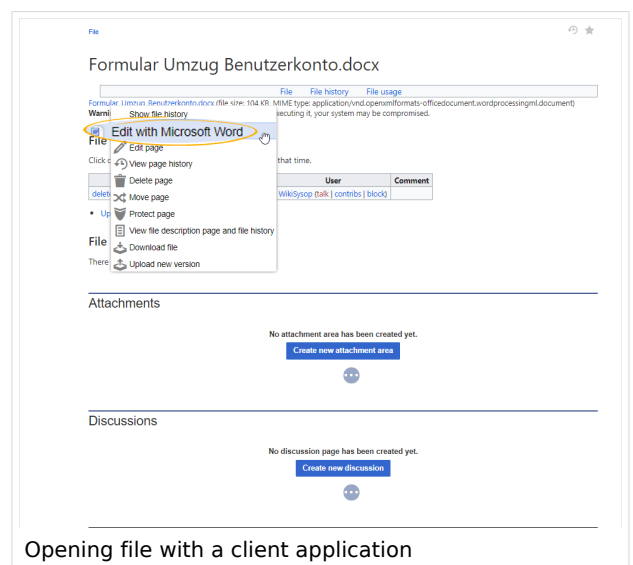
Mounting wiki storage as a drive

Wiki storage can be mounted as a shared drive, just like mounting any other network location.

URL for mounting

In order to obtain the URL to be used for mounting a drive, user can go to their user preferences (by clicking on user image in top right corner and selecting "Preferences"). In the "User profile" tab, under "BlueSpiceWebDAV" section, every user has the personal URL to be used for mounting the drive. This URL contains the static token for the user that will help to autheticate the user upon mounting.

In case the wiki is not configured to use these personalised URLs, a generic URL can be used: `{WIKI_HOST}/webdav.php` eg. https://mywiki.com/wiki/webdav.php

Using the mounted drive

Once the drive is mounted, it will appear the same as any other mounted network location. This drive will contain a folder for each namespace existing on the wiki, inside each of these folders are the page files in .wikipage extension. For the most users, there is no need to use these files. Most important folder in the mounted drive is the **Media** folder, which contains all the files uploaded to the wiki. If wiki is using NSFileRepo extension, "Media" folder will contain a list of directories, once for each namespace on the wiki, where files in namespaces will be located. Files can be edited directly from this drive, any changes will be saved automatically back to the drive (and therefore to the wiki) and will be visible in the wiki. New files can be uploaded to the wiki by copying the files to the mounted drive ("Media" folder, appropriate sub-directory, if available). Those files will be available instantly on the wiki.

Authorization

BlueSpiceWebDAV used "Token autorization" by default to authenticate the users when opening files from the wiki. This means that a uniquen token will be integrated into the URL for accessing the file, to enable seamless access to the file.

Autorization when it comes to drive mounting will be done by entering username and password when mounting the drive. Use the same username and password you use to log into wiki. User will only be asked for credentials once, when mounting the drive (and re-mounting).

Related info

- Reference:WebDAV

Context menu

A quality version of this page, approved on *30 July 2020*, was based off this revision.

ContextMenu replaces the default browser context menu with wiki functions - depending on the context and user permissions.
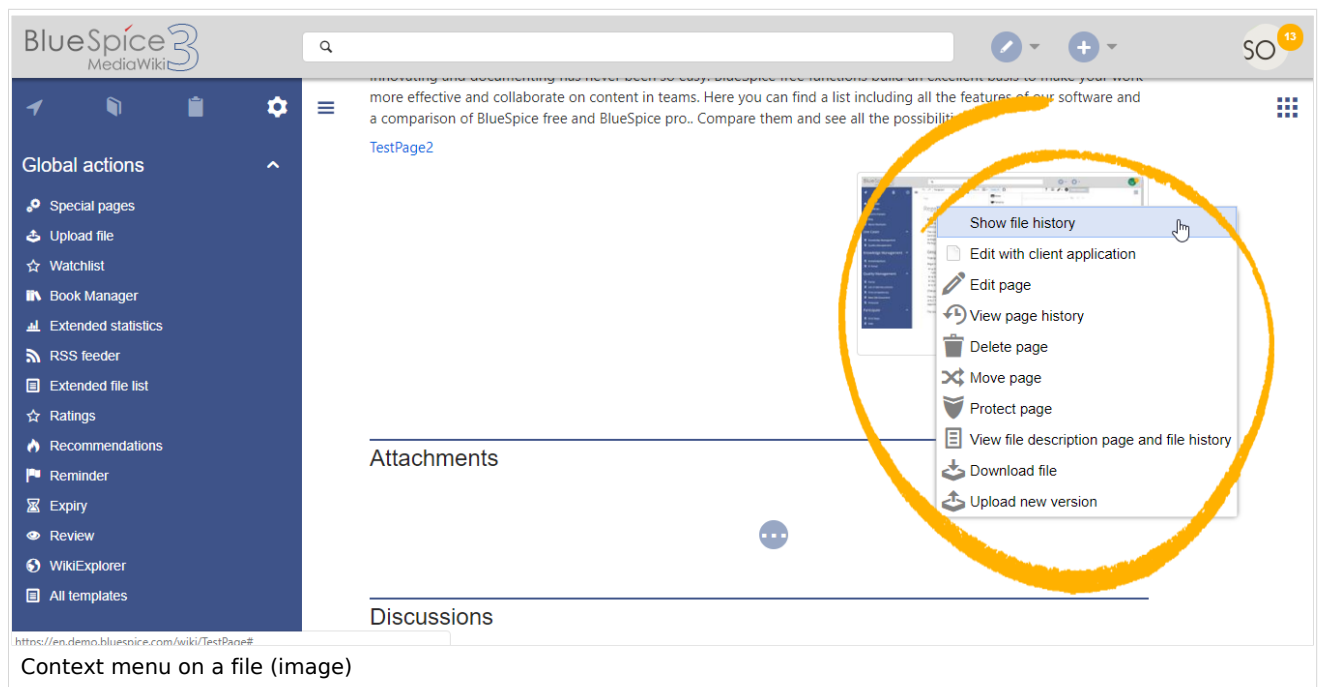
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Using the context menu

Context menu opens when right clicking components that support ContextMenu functionitly, namely, internal links and file links.

The context menu opens when you right-click on a component, such as a link or an image.

Context menu on a file (image)

On internal links, the context menu display quick links for basic page actions, like:
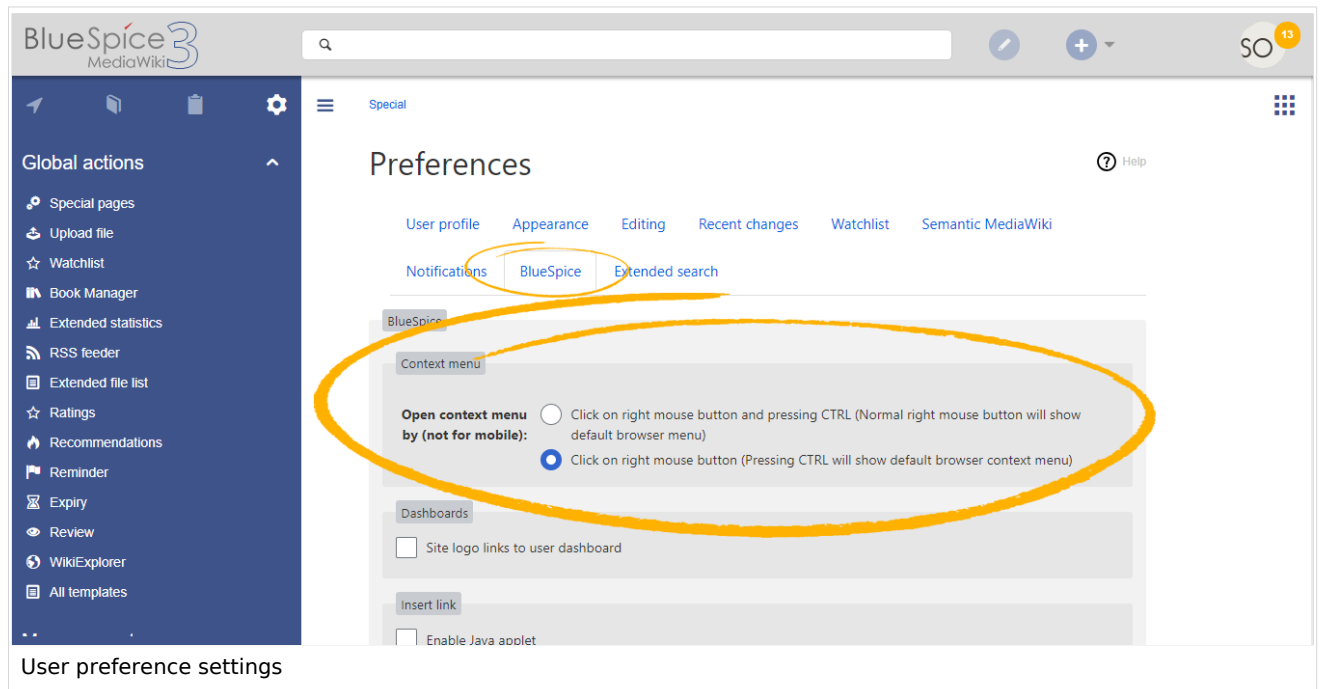
- Editing page
- Viewing page history
- Moving page
- Deleting page...

On file links, some additional options are shown, like:

- Opening file page
- Downloading file
- Uploading new version of the file
- Opening files using client application (when available)

Exact content of ContextMenu menu depends on the wiki configuration

Settings

User preference settings

Settings for the context menu are located in the user preferences (page *Special:Preferences*), under the "Appearance" tab. The setting is applied separate for each user.

The context menu has two modes:

- Click using the right mouse button and pressing CTRL (Normal right mouse button will show default browser menu)
- Click using the right mouse button (Pressing CTRL will show default browser context menu)

Related info

- Reference:BlueSpiceContextMenu

Files in namespaces

A quality version of this page, approved on *10 July 2020*, was based off this revision.

NSFileRepo enables uploading files to namepaces. The extension restricts access to upload and read files and images to a given set of user groups associated with the protected namespaces.
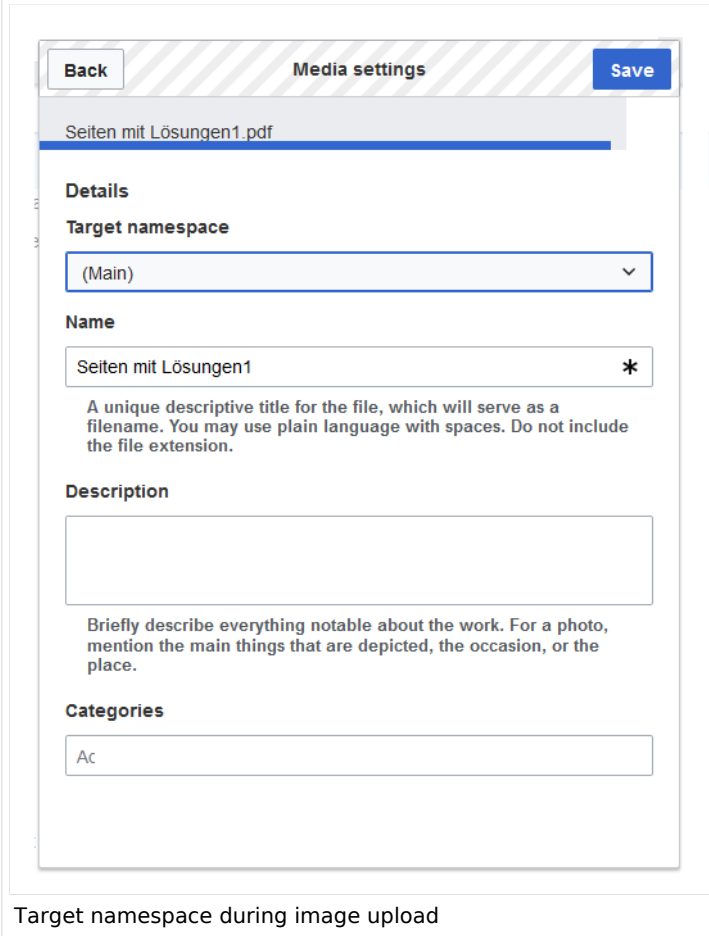
Associating files with namespaces

Files are uploaded to the File namespace (NS_FILE), but contain an additional namespace reference:

```
[[{FILE_NS}:{Namespace}:{Filename}]]
```

For example, a file can be uploaded to the namespace *Private*. where access to that namespace can be resticted to particular user groups:

```
[[File:Private:Filename.jpg]]
```

The namespace for a file can be provided in the upload dialog. By default, the namespace of the wiki page is provided, if you upload a file directly during page editing.

Target namespace during image upload

Related info

- [Reference:NSFileRepo](#)

Reference:WebDAV

Extension\: WebDAV

Overview		
Description:	Adds a WebDAV endpoint that exposes the wiki content	
State:	stable	**Dependency:**	BlueSpice
Developer:	HalloWelt	**License:**	GPL v3 only
Type:	BlueSpice	**Category:**	Document Management
Edition:	BlueSpice pro (deactivated), BlueSpice Farm (deactivated), BlueSpice Cloud (deactivated)	
View help page		

Features

WebDAV provides an endpoint for accessing files on the wiki using different client applications or mounting the wiki content as shared drive.

Usage / features

Certain file types that have been uploaded to the wiki can be opened with WebDAV.

Opening the context menu for these files offers an option to open the file with the client application. Click this option for example to open a docx-file in Microsoft Word. All changes to the file are automatically saved in the wiki when the file is closed.

Protocol	File extensions
ms-word	doc, docx, dot, dotx, rtf, docm, dotm, odt

Protocol	File extensions
ms-excel	xls, xlsx, csv, tsv
ms-powerpoint	ppt, pptx
<any installed zip handler>	zip
<any installed pdf handler>	PDF

The following Microsoft Office file types cannot be opened via the context menu, but can be uploaded and versioned via Windows Explorer if the wiki configuration allows the file type: Visio, Access, Project, Publisher, SharePoint Designer, Infopath.

Technical information

Rights (permissions)

WebDAV offers several ways for authenticating the users with the client application.

MediaWiki authentication

This type of authentication makes the client application prompt the user for the wiki username and password information when opening the file and/or mounting the drive. This type of authentication can only be used in normal local login wikis (no SSO, no LDAP).

Token authentication

This type of authentication appends a token to the URL that is generated for the user and file. On all subsequent requests from the client application, the token is evaluated wiki-side and the request is allowed or rejected based on the outcome of the token verification.

This is the preferred way of authentication and can (and should) be used on all types of wikis. For mounting drives when using this type of authentication, the static token that is generated per user must be included in the URL. The user-specific drive mounting URL is available in the user preferences, under the tab *User profile*. This URL must be used to mount the drive.

Requirements

This extension requires BlueSpiceFoundation.

There are three extensions that make up the WebDAV suite:

- WebDAV: Plain MediaWiki extension - provides the infrastructure.
- BlueSpiceWebDAVClientIntegration: Integrates WebDAV into BlueSpice - namely ContextMenu.
- BlueSpiceWebDAVMinorSave: Interferes with the saving process. It uploads a new version to the wiki only after a user has closed the client application, even if the user saved the file multiple times while editing. This allows having only one revision per complete edit rather than for each save. This functionality is largely experimental and might not work properly. Can be disabled without issue.

BlueSpiceNSFileRepoConnector interacts with WebDAV, and allows WebDAV to work with files that are in namespaces.

More info

For detailed description and usage, visit our help page.

This document was created with BlueSpice